

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed Oct. 29, 2003. Claims 1 – 18 were pending, and the Office Action rejected all claims. Specifically, the Claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as not being anticipated by Tsuboi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,958,221). The title was also objected to as not being descriptive of the invention. In response, the Applicant has amended the title, amended the pending claims, and has added newly drafted Claims 19 – 34.

As understood by the applicant, Tsuboi et al. discloses a digital color copy machine having a test mode for making color adjustments. Specifically, in the test mode, image data corresponding to a partial area of an original document is stored in memory. Then a plurality of test images are generated having different color balances and a mosaic of images is formed. Finally, one of the test images is selected and a copy of the original document with the selected color balance is printed.

In contrast to the disclosure of Tsuboi et al., the present invention as claimed, does not form a partial test image, but uses an entire first image, as well as at least one other entire image formed using a parameter different from the first image. The claims have been amended to more clearly specify that the entire image is printed, not just a partial test image. This is clearly not disclosed by Tsuboi. Full image printing allows the present invention to perform image processing on image characteristics such as lightness, γ compensation, masking, enlargement/reduction, sharpness or trimming, since the entire image is displayed (Claims 17 and 18). These adjustments would not be possible utilizing the techniques of Tsuboi, and contrary to the Examiner's suggestion, it is respectfully submitted that Tsuboi does not disclose a system for adjusting these parameters in a printed image.

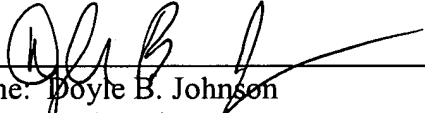
In addition, the present invention allows the user to repeat the adjustment process numerous times (see the flowchart Fig. 2), as specifically claimed at least by claims 19-23, 29, and 32-34. The disclosure of Tsuboi neither teaches nor discloses any means for having repeated adjustments based on a selected entire image. Furthermore, Tsuboi does not teach or disclose

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication and which may be required under 37 CFR §1.16 or §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-2603, referencing **Attorney Docket No. 21778.04000 (351778.04000)**. **A duplicate sheet is attached.**

Respectfully submitted,
REED SMITH LLP

Dated: March 1, 2004

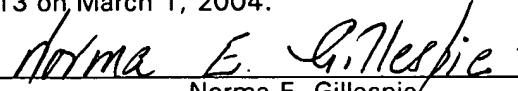
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, VA. 22313 on March 1, 2004.

March 1, 2004


Norma E. Gillespie